

Annexure 4

Amateur League

Article 1 - Competition Format

1. All participating clubs are required to field a first team and a reserves team.
2. A club may not enter more than one team in the same division. A club may not enter teams in more than three divisions.
3. Teams will be ranked in their divisions according to the number of competition points they accrue over the season.
4. The team finishing in first place of each division at the conclusion of the season, will be declared the champion team for that season. The order in which teams finish the competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Article 2.
5. The clubs finishing in first and second places of each first team division at the end of the season will play in the division above in the following season, except in the case of the premier division.
6. The club whose first team finishes first in the Premier Division will occupy a promotion position to State League 2. Promotion is not compulsory, but if the club wishes to accept promotion, it must inform Football West of its intention to do so no later than **5:00pm on Friday 20 October 2017**. For the avoidance of doubt, a club may NOT accept promotion after this date.
7. A club that has teams in either the Senior NPL or State League competitions is ineligible for promotion to State League 2.
8. The clubs finishing in the lowest two places of each first team division at the end of the season will play in the division below in the following season, with the exception of the lowest ranked division.
9. Football West reserves the right to alter promotion and relegation rules if one or more clubs withdraws from the Amateur League either during or after the season, or in cases where there are fewer than 12 teams in any division. Any such change in rules will be determined in consultation with the Amateur, Social & Masters Standing Committee.
10. The club which finishes in the lowest position of the lowest division will be relegated to the Metropolitan League if the club which finishes in first position in the Metropolitan League Premier Division accepts the offer of promotion to the Amateur League.
11. If enacting paragraphs 5 and 6 causes paragraph 2 to be breached, then Football West will determine which clubs are promoted and relegated, if any.
12. Should a vacancy be created in any division before the commencement of the following season, then the vacancy will be filled through a process determined by Football West and the Amateur, Social & Masters Standing Committee.
13. Should circumstances arise that prevent a competition from being completed in a manner with inequity, Football West reserves the right to make a determination as to how that competition will be finalised. All affected clubs and the Amateur, Social and Masters Standing Committee will be consulted before a decision is made.

Article 2 - Competition Points

1. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. Points are not transferable between divisions.
2. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the season, the following criteria are applied in order to determine the higher ranking team.

- a) the team with the superior goal difference
- b) the team with the higher number of goals scored
- c) the number of points gained in matches between the teams concerned
- d) the superior goal difference in matches between the teams concerned
- e) the team with the lower number of red cards
- f) the team with the lower number of yellow cards
- g) the drawing of lots

Article 3 - Individual Awards

1. A Fairest and Best prize will be awarded to the best player in each division.
2. The match referee for each match will award votes. Three votes will be awarded to the best player, two votes to the next best player and one vote awarded to the third best player.
3. The player who receives the most votes over the course of the season will win the Fairest and Best prize for his division.
4. If two or more players tie for the highest number of votes, then a prize will be awarded to each of those players.
5. If a player receives a suspension as a result of being shown a red card, or as a result of a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Committee during the regular season, he will be ineligible to win the Fairest and Best Award for that season.
6. An award will be presented to the player who scores the most goals in his division in league matches throughout the season. If two or more players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those players.

Article 4 - Venue

1. The home venue of Amateur League clubs must meet the criteria of a Class C venue as specified in the Football West Competition Management By-Law.
2. A club may request to change its home ground venue but may do so only by written application to Football West. Football West reserves the right to refuse any application if the facilities do not meet the criteria as specified in the Football West Competition Management By-Law.
3. Football West reserves the right to reject any application for a change of venue if the proposed new venue is within 5 kilometres of another Amateur League club.
4. Football West reserves the right to require that its sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all Football West matches.
5. Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Amateur League Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

Article 5 - Matches

1. With the exception of abandoned matches, each period of a match must last for a minimum of 35 minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
2. The duration of the half time interval will be 15 minutes.
3. The referee must adjust the duration of a reserves match to ensure that the first team match commences at the scheduled kick-off time.

4. When a match is shortened in accordance with paragraph 3, each match official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal match fee.
5. The technical area may have a maximum of 8 occupants, consisting of a maximum of 5 named substitutes and a maximum of 3 team officials.
6. All substitutes must be seated within the technical area unless warming up.
7. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside the technical area, provided they are wearing different colours to both teams and the match officials.
8. In the event that a club does not have sufficient players to field a reserve and first team, the first team will take priority.
9. Spectators are not permitted inside the barrier which separates the field of play from the rest of the venue while the match is in progress. If the barrier in place is only in place around part of the field of play, spectators may only watch the match from behind that partial barrier. For the avoidance of doubt, there must be a barrier between a spectator and the field of play. It is the responsibility of the home club to enforce this.
10. On days in which the temperature is expected to be high, the referee may use his discretion to allow players to take drink breaks. During any such break, all players must remain on the field of play.
11. The home club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed between the technical areas in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first match of the day until the conclusion of the final match of the day unless being utilised.
Penalty for Breach \$20
12. The result of each match must be entered into Fox Sports Pulse by the home club no later than 8:00pm on the day of the match, unless the match kicks off after 3:30pm.
Penalty for Breach \$50
13. Football West reserves the right to instruct home clubs to increase the minimum security arrangements for any match at any time. The cost of any additional security arrangements will be borne by the home club.
14. Football West may from time to time nominate any match as being under the direct control of Football West. In such circumstances, Football West will determine the conditions under which the match is to be played.
15. Football West will, whenever possible, allocate Match Commissioners to all Premier Division first team matches. A Match Commissioner is a Match Official and has the same status as Referees and Assistant Referees.

Article 6 - Ground Marshals

1. Each club must appoint ground marshals who are 18 years of age or older whose duties are:
 - a) to ensure the security and safety of players, match officials and club officials;
 - b) to supervise the conduct of ball persons if provided;
 - c) to liaise with club officials and emergency services if required;
 - d) to ensure the security of the venue, players, match officials and club officials at the conclusion of the match; and
 - e) to provide an escort for the referee to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period.

2. The home club must provide at least two ground marshals for each first team and reserves team match.

Penalty for Breach \$50

3. The away club must provide at least two ground marshals for each first team match and one ground marshal for each reserves team match.

Penalty for Breach **\$50**

4. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
5. All ground marshals must have access to all areas of the ground at all times. Ground marshals may not be limited to a specific location (for example, the person working in a canteen may not be a ground marshal).
6. All ground marshals must wear the ground marshal vests which have been supplied by Football West for the duration of the match. Lost vests may be purchased from Football West.
7. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
8. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
9. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed match officials at least fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of each match.

Article 7 - Match Documentation

1. The team list for each match must clearly indicate the match result, the half-time score, goal scorers if any, times of any goals scored and misconduct offences. Each team list must be correctly signed by the authorised representative of each club and the match referee.
2. The first eleven players listed on a team list must be on the field of play when the match commences unless the team is unable to field eleven players.
3. The team list must contain the names of team officials who intend to occupy the technical area. A maximum of 3 team officials may occupy the technical area. For the avoidance of doubt, a player or team official whose name does not appear on the team list may not enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the technical area while the match is in progress.
4. Team officials who wish to sit in the Technical Area during any match of the Amateur League MUST be registered on MyFootballClub.
5. The appointed referee must ensure that the team list arrives at Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.
6. The appointed referee must complete a match report according to the instructions dictated by the Referees Technical Committee. Such reports are to be lodged with Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.
7. If no referee is appointed by Football West, it is the responsibility of the referee appointed by the home club, under the conditions of Article 13 paragraph 4, to ensure that all match documentation is received by Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match, including any reports of red cards.
8. Should a referee not be appointed by Football West, and the team lists for the match are not received by Football West within 2 weeks of the completion of the match, Football West reserves the right to declare that the match has been forfeited by the home club.
9. At the conclusion of each match, the match referee will record best and fairest votes. This information is not to be disclosed to anybody and must be lodged with Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.

Article 8 - Players

1. Players who are designated professional players in accordance with the National Registration Regulations may not participate in the Amateur League.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

2. To be eligible to play in the Amateur League, a player must have been born in 2001 or earlier unless otherwise deemed eligible at the discretion of Football West.
3. No more than 5 named substitutes may be listed on the team list of which a maximum of 3 may be used in any one match.
4. A club that also has teams in the National Premier Leagues or All Flags State League may not field any of its players who have started a match in the first team of the National Premier Leagues or All Flags State League in the Amateur League in the same competition season.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

5. A club that also has teams in the National Premier Leagues or All Flags State League may not field any of its players who have competed in reserves teams of the National Premier Leagues or All Flags State League on more than 5 occasions in the Amateur League in the same competition season.
6. If a player starts a match in the National Premier Leagues or All Flags State League reserves competition, he may not play in the Amateur League on the same weekend.
7. A player may not be named on two separate team lists within the Amateur League on the same day, unless the two team lists are those of a first and its associated reserves team.
8. Once a player has taken the field of play in a first team of the Amateur League on eleven occasions, he may not appear on the team list of any other team in a lower ranked division for the same club. This rule does not apply to players who may play in the first team or reserves team of the same division.

Article 9 - Proof of Registration

1. Proof of Registration as described in the Competition Rules must be provided to the opposition club along with the team list BEFORE each match commences. If any club is unable to provide proof of registration, the match may proceed, but the referee MUST submit a report to Football West stating that the club in question failed to provide proof of registration. The opposition club must return the Proof of Registration to each club at the end of the match.
2. If a club notices a discrepancy in the opposition's proof of registration, it MUST draw it to the attention of the referee. In such cases, the referee MUST submit a report to Football West. For the avoidance of doubt, it is not the referee's role to make a judgment on the validity of the discrepancy but rather to simply report it to Football West. Regardless of any alleged discrepancy, the match must be allowed to proceed. For the avoidance of doubt, the referee has no authority to stop a player from taking the field of play based on any discrepancy in that player's proof of registration.
3. A player eligibility protest on the grounds of failure to produce Proof of Registration will only be accepted if a report has been received by Football West from the referee.

Article 10 - Playing Strips

1. All clubs must nominate a home and alternative playing strip.

2. A team whose shirts comprise vertical stripes must have a plain coloured background on the back of each shirt on which the number is placed. The colour of the numbers must contrast clearly with the colour of the aforementioned background.

Penalty for Breach **\$50**

3. In any match, if the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, then players of the away team will be required to change its shirts or socks or both. In the event of any dispute with regard to the strip to be worn by either team, the referee's decision is final.
4. If the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, and the away team is unable to change that part of its attire which is causing that confusion, then the match may not proceed. For the avoidance of doubt, bibs may NOT be used.

Article 11 - Match Balls

1. The home club will provide the referee with three match balls no later than ten minutes prior to the commencement of the match.

Penalty for Breach **\$50**

2. All matches in the Premier & Premier Reserves divisions must use the FIFA approved Select "Super" match ball. Three match balls will be provided free of charge to each Premier Division Club.

Penalty for Breach **\$50**

Article 12 - Match Officials

1. Each club is responsible for 50% of match official fees. Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each season.
2. Match official fees are payable in cash to the match official(s) on the day of the match before the match commences, with the exception of the Premier & Premier Reserves Divisions, which will be paid by the clubs following monthly invoices issued by Football West.
3. The allocation of match officials will be determined by Football West. No club may request the attendance or non-attendance of any particular match official.
4. In the event that a referee is not allocated to the match by Football West, or that none of the match officials allocated to a match is ready and able to commence the match within 5 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the home club will allocate a referee.
5. In the absence of one or both assistant referees, each team will provide a club assistant referee to assist the match referee. If either club does not comply, then the match may not proceed.
6. If the officially appointed referee delays any match which is completed or abandoned later that same day, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of the match outlining the reasons for his actions. The officially appointed referee is entitled to 100% of the match fee for a delayed match which is subsequently completed or abandoned.
7. If the officially appointed referee delays any match which is not commenced that same day, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of the match outlining the reasons for his actions. The officially appointed referee is entitled

to 50% of the match fee for a delayed match which is subsequently postponed to another date.

8. When a match is forfeited by a club, the referee is entitled to receive 100% of the prescribed match fee to be paid by the club which forfeited the match, unless the forfeiting club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.
9. When a match is abandoned, the match officials are entitled to receive the full amount of their normal match fees.

Article 13 - Representative Teams

1. If a club has 4 or more players from one team participating in a representative match, it may seek the postponement of any club match which clashes with the representative match.
2. To be considered as a qualifying player under paragraph 1, and subject to the conditions of paragraph 3, the player must have been recorded on that team's team lists for a minimum of 80% of all matches up to and including the date of the request to postpone.
3. If the player is required to participate in a representative match prior to round six of the season, Football West will determine the team of a player from the team sheets available. Football West's decision in determining the team of a player is final.

Article 14 - Fair Play Award

1. Football West will present a Fair Play Award of \$1,000 to the club whose Amateur League first and reserves teams in the Premier Division receive the fewest number of penalty points.
2. Penalty points are accrued according to the following scale:

a)	Each single yellow card issued	1 points
b)	Each indirect red card issued (two yellow cards to a single player)	3 points
c)	Each direct red card issued	5 points
d)	Each team official expelled from the technical area	5 points
e)	Five or more players cautioned or sent off in a single match	5 points
f)	Three or more players sent off in a single match	10 points
3. In the event that two or more clubs receive the fewest penalty points, the award will be shared.